Loans Received by SCs/STs in Karnataka

3035. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SCs/STs who received loans in Karnataka during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and so far in the year 1999; and

(b) the amount of money released from the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation during each of the above mention years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The number of SC/ST beneficiaries who received loans in Karnataka during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and so far in 1999 is as follows:

S.No.	Year	Beneficiaries		
		SC	ST	Total
1.	1995-96	973	243	1216
2.	1996-97	1473	369	1844
3.	1997-98	2335	581	2916
4.	1998-99	279	60	339

(b) NSFDC has released the following amount as loan to SC/ST beneficiaries in Karnataka. Yearwise figures are given below:

Rs. in lakhs

S.No.	Year	Amount of loan released		
		SC	ST	Total
1.	1995-96	602.73	150.20	752.93
2.	1996-97	364.36	91.09	455.45
3.	1997-98	465.48	106.73	572.21
4.	1998-99	347.73	49.90	397.63

निराश्रित बच्चों का कल्याण

3036. **श्रीमती बसंती शर्मा:** क्या **सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में विशेषकर महानगरीय शहरों में निराश्रित बच्चों के कल्याण के लिए कोई नई योजना तैयार की है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है,

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर "ना" में हो तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) देश के निराश्रित बच्चों के पुनर्वास के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन-कौन से उचित कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी): (क) और (ख) हालांकि सरकार ने देश में बेसहारा बच्चों के कल्याण के लिए कोई नई योजना तैयार नहीं की है फिर भी "बेसहारा बच्चों के कल्याण की वर्तमान योजना" की समीक्षा की गई है तथा इसके क्षेत्र का विस्तार किया गया है। अब इसे "बेसहारा बच्चों के लिए एकीकृत कार्यक्रम" के रूप में जाना जाता है। इसका उद्देश्य निराश्रित और उपेक्षित बेसहारा बच्चों को आवास, पोषाहार, स्वास्थ्य देखभाल, स्वच्छता और आरोग्यता, सुरक्षित पेयजल, शिक्षा, मनोरंजन सुविधाएं और दुरुपयोग तथा शोषण के विरुद्ध सुरक्षा प्रदान करना है।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) सरकार द्वारा सहायता अनुदान बेसहारा बच्चों के लिए एकीकृत कार्यक्रम" नामक योजना को कार्यान्वयन में लगे हुए स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को प्रदान किया जा रहा है।

Stray Dogs a Big Menace

3037. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether stray dogs have become a big menace in the streets in as much as they cannot be eliminated under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act;

(b) whether there have been numerous incidents of dog bites in Delhi and the only antidote to this is anti-rabbies

injections which cost as high as rupees 2000 in one case; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken/being taken to meet this ugly situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) It is a fact that stray dogs cannot be eliminated under the prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. To control the menace of stray dogs in the streets, the Government have implemented the scheme for Birth Control and Immunization of Stray Dogs during the year 94—99.

Scholarship for OBC Higher Medical Studies

3038. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans/loan-scholarship scheme to finance higher medical/dental studies of OBC students intending to study/studying in recongnised private colleges; and

(b) the details of amount sanctioned since inception of these schemes for scholarship and loan separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation had formulated a scheme 'AAKANKSHA' in 1996-97 as pilot scheme for providing loan to eligible members of Backward Classes for pursuing higher Professional and Technical courses including medicine in different Professional/Technical recognised institutes.

(b) The Corporation has sanctioned Rs. 9,37,880/- to 15 candidates for education loan.

Role of NGO for Senior Citizens

3039. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes/projects launched/contemplated on the occasion of International Year for the elderly people by Government; and

(b) what is/would be the role of NGOs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The year 1999 has been declared as the international year of Older Persons by the United Nations. During the year 1999-2000, higher allocation has been proposed and expansion will be undertaken of this Ministry's Schemes to provide financial assistance to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for construction and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Mobile Medicare Units for Older Persons.

Exploitation of Tribals by Private Traders

3040. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of growing exploitation of tribals by private traders in the tribal areas of Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the State as well as Central level tribal co-operative societies are not able to give due protection to the tribals;

(c) if so, the steps taken to save the tribals from exploitation; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.